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Economic and Social Council

Provisional

31 October 2011

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Resumed substantive session of 2011

Provisional summary record of the 51st meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 6 October 2011, at 3 p.m.

President: Mr. Kapambwe ..... (Zambia)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.05 p.m.

Election of the Bureau (*continued*)

1. **The President** announced the departure from the Council of Mr. Gonzalo Gutiérrez Reinel. He had been informed that, in accordance with rule 22 of the Council's rules of procedure, the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States had endorsed the candidacy of Mr. Enrique Román-Morey, Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations, to complete Mr. Gutiérrez Reinel's unexpired term.

2. *Mr. Enrique Román-Morey (Peru) was elected by acclamation Vice-President of the Council for the remainder of its 2011 session.*

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (*continued*)

Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments (*continued*)

Executive Board of the World Food Programme

3. **The President** invited the Council to elect six members to the Executive Board of the World Food Programme for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2012.

4. **Ms. Pliner** (Secretary of the Council) said that Zambia had been endorsed by the Group of African States (List A); China had been endorsed by the Group of Asian States (List B); Japan and the United Kingdom had been endorsed by the Group of Western European and Other States (List D); and the Czech Republic had been endorsed by the Group of Eastern European States (List E).

5. **The President** said that, since the number of candidates from each regional group was equal to the number of vacancies for those groups, he took it that the Council wished to elect by acclamation the candidates proposed.

6. *It was so decided.*

7. *China, Czech Republic, Japan, United Kingdom and Zambia were elected members of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme.*

8. **The President** said that he took it that the Council wished to postpone the election of one member from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States (List C) for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2012.

9. *It was so decided.*

Commission on Narcotic Drugs

10. **The President** invited the Council to consider the outstanding vacancies on the Commission on Narcotic Drugs. He announced that the Group of African States had endorsed Zimbabwe to fill one of the remaining vacancies. He took it that the Council wished to elect Zimbabwe by acclamation for a term beginning on 1 January 2012 and expiring on 31 December 2015.

11. *It was so decided.*

12. **The President** said that, in the absence of any other candidates for election to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, he took it that the Council wished to further postpone the election of one member from the Group of African States for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 2012.

13. *It was so decided.*

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

14. **The President** invited the Council to consider the outstanding vacancies on the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. He announced that the Group of African States had endorsed Nigeria to fill the remaining vacancy from that Group. He took it that the Council wished to elect Nigeria by acclamation for a term beginning on 1 January 2012 and expiring on 31 December 2014.

15. *It was so decided.*

Commission on Sustainable Development

16. **The President** invited the Council to consider the outstanding vacancies on the Commission on Sustainable Development. He announced that the Group of Western European and Other States had endorsed Israel to fill the remaining vacancy from that Group. He took it that the Council wished to elect Israel by acclamation for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2015.

17. *It was so decided.*

Commission on Science and Technology for Development

18. **The President** invited the Council to consider the outstanding vacancies on the Commission on Science and Technology for Development. He announced that the Group of Western European and Other States had endorsed Sweden to fill the remaining vacancy from that Group. He took it that the Council wished to elect Sweden by acclamation for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2014.

19. *It was so decided.*

Committee for Programme and Coordination

20. **The President** invited the Council to consider the outstanding vacancies on the Committee for Programme and Coordination. He announced that the Group of African States had endorsed Guinea and Guinea-Bissau and the Group of Western European and Other States had endorsed Italy to fill three of the remaining vacancies from those Groups. He took it that the Council wished to elect Guinea, Guinea-Bissau and Italy by acclamation for a term beginning on 1 January 2012 and expiring on 31 December 2014.

21. *It was so decided.*

22. **The President** said that, in the absence of any other candidates for election to the Committee for Programme and Coordination, he took it that the Council wished to further postpone the election of three members from the Group of Western European and Other States for terms beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2011; one member from the Group of Asian States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2013; and one member from the Group of Asian States and four members from the Group of Western European and Other States for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2012.

23. *It was so decided.*

Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting

24. **The President** invited the Council to consider the outstanding vacancies on the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting. He announced that the Group of African States had endorsed Tunisia to fill one of the remaining vacancies. He took it that the Council wished to elect Tunisia by acclamation for a term beginning on 1 January 2012 and expiring on 31 December 2014.

25. *It was so decided.*

26. **The President** said that, in the absence of any other candidates for election to the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting, he took it that the Council wished to further postpone the election of three members from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States and four members from the Group of Western European and Other States for terms beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2011; four members from the Group of Asian States and one member from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States for terms beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2012; and one member from the Group of African States, two members from the Group of Asian States, one member from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States and nine members from the Group of Western European and Other States for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2012.

27. *It was so decided.*

Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

28. **The President** invited the Council to consider the outstanding vacancies on the Governing Council of UN-Habitat. He announced that the Group of Western European and Other States had endorsed Italy to fill one of the remaining vacancies. He took it that the Council wished to elect Italy by acclamation for a term beginning on 1 January 2012 and expiring on 31 December 2015.

29. *It was so decided.*

30. **The President** said that, in the absence of any other candidates for election to the Governing Council of UN-Habitat, he took it that the Council wished to further postpone the election of two members from the Group of Eastern European States for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2012; and six members from the Group of Western European and Other States, two for two terms beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2011, two for terms beginning on the date of election and expiring on

31 December 2012 and two for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 2012.

31. *It was so decided.*

32. **The President** recalled that, in addition to the outstanding vacancies in the bodies that had been mentioned, there remained outstanding vacancies on the Commission on Population and Development, the Commission for Social Development and the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS). He would be in contact with the relevant regional groups to request their submission of candidates to those seats as soon as possible.

Social and human rights questions (*continued*)

(g) Human rights questions (*continued*)

33. **The President** proposed that the Council should further defer its consideration of the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its forty-fourth and forty-fifth sessions (E/2011/22) to a later date before the end of the year, given that he was in the process of appointing a facilitator to hold consultations on the report.

34. *It was so decided.*

Economic and environmental questions (*continued*)

(a) Sustainable development

35. **The President** proposed that the Council should defer action on the draft resolution entitled "Review of United Nations support for small island developing States" (E/2011/L.52), in light of the fact that consultations on the matter were still ongoing.

36. *It was so decided.*

Coordination, programme and other questions (*continued*)

37. **The President** said that the Bureau of the Council continued to participate in multi-stakeholder meetings with a view to implementing paragraph 67 of General Assembly resolution 64/289, which called on the Council to establish linkages between the Commission on the Status of Women and the newly established Executive Board of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women). It had been agreed that the relationship between the two entities should remain flexible and should not be hierarchical. Furthermore, the Commission and the Executive Board would retain their autonomy. It was expected that another meeting would be held before the end of the year in order to ensure timely and substantive action to promote synergy between the two bodies.

38. The Council would be holding two joint events with the Second Committee of the General Assembly in October, the first on the topic of investing in productive capacity for job growth and the second on the process of global recovery following the economic crisis. Professor Joseph Stiglitz would be presenting at the second event.

39. The 2011 Economic and Social Council retreat was scheduled for November. Current Bureau members, former Council Presidents, United Nations experts and representatives from academia and the Bretton Woods institutions would be attending. The retreat would focus on the provisions of General Assembly resolution 61/16, "Strengthening the Economic and Social Council", and offer the opportunity for frank and informal discussion on ways to revitalize the work of the Council and make it a flexible and relevant body.

40. Lastly, the Council would be holding a special event on cybersecurity and development on 9 December. The objectives of the event would be to raise awareness of the issue, identify good cybersecurity practices from around the world and explore options for a global response to cybercrime.

The meeting rose at 3.45 p.m.